Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 ACDA-10 IO-14 ARA-14 FEA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 /111 W

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UAIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AIEA, TECH, MX

SUBJECT: EXPORT OF SNM TO MEXICO (S-725)

REF: (A) STATE 179523, (B) 75 IAEA VIENNA 9599

1. EXPORT LICENSE CASE AND REQUEST DESCRIBED REF A
POSES DILEMMA, SINCE SECOND SUPPLY AGREEMENT (INFCIRC/52,

EXPIRES OCTOBER 4, 1977, AND WE QUESTION WHENTHER IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE NECESSARY PROCEDURES AND ARRANGE FOR EXPORT OF THE MATERIAL BEFORE THAT DATE.

ADD.1) UNDER WHICH MATERIAL WOULD BE TRANSFERRED

2. IN ANY EVENT, MISSION SERIOUSLY QUESTIONS PRACTICE OF PLACING A TIME LIMIT ON VALIDITY OF IAEA'S ASSSURANCES AND REQUEST SET FORTH IN ITS LETTER OF NOVEMBER 5, 1975

(MENTIONED REF B). (U.S. HAS NEVER RESPONDED TO THAT LETTER.) THE ONLY NEW FACTOR INVOLVED IS AN ADDED UNCLASSIFIED

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FIVE GRAMS OF MATERIAL, BUT THE TOTOAL AOUNT OF MATERIAL INVOLVED IS STAILL WELL WITHIN THE TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 10,800 GRAMS SPECIFIED IN THE SECOND SUPPLY AGREEMENT. WE BELIEVE IT IS UNDESIRABLE TO APPEAR TO BE QUESTIONING VALIDITY OF ASSURANCES AGENCY HAS ALREADY GIVEN UNLESS IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO DO SSO.

- 3. IN ADDITION TO ASSURANCES CONTAINED IN AGENCY'S NOVEMBER 5 LETTER, AND ON ASSUMPTION THAT THE MATERIAL REFERRED TO IN PARA 2 REV A CONSTITUTES A PORTION OF THE MATERIAL DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1 OF THEU.S./IAEA/MEXICO SECOND SUPPLY AGREEMENT (INFCIRC/52, ADD.1), THE IAEA HAS, BY ITS SIGNATURE OF THAT AGREEMENT, PROVIDED ASSURNACES THAT THE MTERIAL IN QUESTION IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE U.S./IAEA AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION, AS AMENDED. IN OUR VIEW, THIS FACT, COUPLED WITH IAEA NOVEMBER 5, 1975 LETTER, SHOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR USG TO CONCLUDE THAT THE MATERIAL IN QUESTION WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE U.S./IAEA AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION. IF U.S. CAN PROCEED ON THIS BASIS, THERE MAY BE A SLIM CHANCE OF BEATING THE OCTOBER 4 DEADLINE.
- 4. IF FOREGOING IS CONSIDERED INSUFFICIENT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THIS CASE, WE ARE NOT RPT NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CHANCES OF OBTAINING ANOTHER IAEA LETTER WITH NEW ASSURANCES, ETC., IN LESS THAN SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS, WHICH IS ABOUT WHEN THE SECOND SUPPLY AGREEMENT WILL EXPIRE. IF WE REQUEST ANOTHER LETTER FROM IAEA, IAEA WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE TO CHECK FACTS WITH GOM, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO CHECK FURTHER WITH GENERAL ATOOMIC, AND EVENTUALLY GOM WOULD RESPOND TO IAEA, AND IAEA TO US. THIS PROCESS TOOK NEARLY TWO UNCLASSIFIED

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MPNTHS THE LAST TIME AROUND, I.E., TO OBTAIN AGENCY'S NOVEMBER 5,1975 LETTER. ACCORDINGLY, WE SEE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF BEING ABLE TO REPEAT THE PROCESS AND PROVIDE NEW ASSURANCES BEFORE APPLICABLE AGREEMTN EXPIRES.

- 5. IF SECOND SUPPLY AGREEMENT EXPIRES BEFORE EXPORT OF MATERIAL TAKES PLACE, A NEW SUPPLY AGREEMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPROVAL. IT IS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THAT THIS COULD BE ARRANGED IN TIME FOR THE SEPTEMBER 23 MEETING OF BG. NEXT FOLLOWING METING WILL BE IN FEBRUARY 1978.
- 6. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, MISSION EQUESTS GUEDANCE ON HOW TO PROCEED. LABOWITZ

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